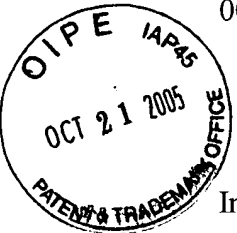


DPW

00862.022413

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Yuichi IKEDA, et al.) Examiner: C. Kronenthal
Application No.: 09/982,177) Group Art Unit: 2623
Filed: October 19, 2001)
For: DATA PROCESSING SYSTEM,) October 21, 2005
MAINTENANCE APPARATUS)
AND IMAGE PROCESSING)
APPARATUS)

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each listed document (other than the U.S. Patents) is enclosed.

These documents may be pertinent because they were cited in a European Search Report issued in a counterpart application on August 24, 2005. A copy of the Search Report is enclosed

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01-FC-1051 130-00-DA

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

Each item of information in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date of this Statement.

The status of the August 16, 2005 Office Action is unclear as to whether that action is final. If it is deemed final, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the required \$180 fee to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. Otherwise, the above 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) Statement should be sufficient to obtain consideration of this information.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Brian L. Klock
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BLK/mls

FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) Submitted: October 21, 2005				ATTY DOCKET NO. 00862.022413		APPLICATION NO. 09/982,177	
				APPLICANT Yuichi IKEDA, et al.			
				FILING DATE October 19, 2001		GROUP 2623	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		5,659,628	08/1997	Tachikawa et al.			
		5,696,594	12/1997	Saito et al.			
		6,048,117	04/2000	Banton			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		0 912 042	04/1999	Europe			
		0 655 853	05/1995	Europe			
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 1